#### Business Notices.

BALLS AND PARTIES, COLD WEATHER, SNOW DALLO AND FARTHER, COLD THE GATER BOOTS AND RAIM.—Ladder White Saim, Rid and Lines Gatter Boots, and Saippers in balls and outlies, Cloth Bertrox Boots, with warm lighing, for cold weather, soft, warm Sirppers for the inwarm lighing, for cold weather, soft, warm Sirppers for the railed at \$1 per pair. INDIA RUBER BOOTS and SHOKE for this season of snew and raim. Ladder, patronize cases of the cold o

PIANOS AND MELODEONS.—The HORACE WA-PIANOS AND MELODEONS.—The HORACE WA
TERS modern improved Finnes and Melodeons are to be from
only at No. 533 Broadway. Pianos to rent, and rent allowed or
purcases; for sale on monthly payments. Second hand Piano
from 53 to \$15c; Melodeons, \$40 to \$125. Eight one hor
ford dellar Melodeons for rent, and rent allowed on purchase
Pianos tened and repaired, polished, bexed and moved.

FANCY ARTICLES FOR GIFTS AND PRESENTS .-The whole at M. embracing every variety of Bolls, Toys, Game &c. at Roorra's extensive Fancy Bazar, No. 439 Broadwa's is to be sold off this month, at less prices than ever bein offered in this city. H. S. Roorra, No. 429 Broadway.

SINGER'S SEWING MACHINES.—The best of all All who have female relatives or All who have female relatives or the same of the same of

WIGS — HAIR DYE — WIGS — BAICHELASE'S Wies and Touries have improvements peculiar to their house. They are celebrated all over the world for the 1 graceful beauty, case and durability—fitting to a charm. The largest and best shock in the world. Twelve private rooms for applying his famous Dye. Sold at BATCHELON'S, NO. 283 Broadway.

MEDICINE WITHOUT PAY. I will present one box of my Magnetic Salve to any respectable patient who will call and receive it. For Bures Scrofuls and Salt Reum, unsurpused S. B. Smitz, Electromagnetist, No. 77 Canal-st., between Broadway and Church-st.

DEPIANCE SALAMANDER SAFES .- ROBERT M. Parance is the sole manufacturer in the United States of the above celebrated Safes and patent Powder-proof Defiance Locas and Cross Bars. Depot No. 172 Pearlist, one door below Maidee lend

RUPTURE. - Only Prize Medal awarded to MARSH E. Co., by the industrial Exhibition of all Nations at the Crystal Palace, for their new Parket Rabical-Curk Truss. References to its superiority: Prot. Valentine Mott, Willard Parket, and John M Carmochan. Open from 7 a. m. to 9 p. m. Marsh & Co., No. 2; Maiden lane. New York.

WILDER'S PATENT SALAMANDER SAFE, The only Salamander Safe made, 1974 Fe,
The Best Fire-Proof Safe in the World,
Wernated free from Dampness, and secured with
Wilder's Patent Prowner and Burglar Proof Lock.
Depot No. 127 Water-at., near Wall, N. Y.
B. G. Wilder & Co., Patenters and Manufacturers.

JOUVEN'S PREPARATION FOR CLEANING KID JOUVEN'S PREPARATION

GLOVES is entirely devoid of smell. While on the hand, apply
a small portlen; the dirt instantly disappears; can be worn immediately afterward; an important saving to buil-goes. Try
mediately afterward; an important saving to buil-goes. Try
before buying. Wholesale and retail, at the POTICHOMANIE
EMPORIUM, No. 502 Broadway.

ARTIFICIAL LEGS-PALMER'S PATENT. At No. 376 Broadway, New York; No. 376 Chestrat-st.,
Philisdelphia: Springfield, Mass.—The East and only ReliaBle Limb Ever hivenyed and in use, in America and Europe,
as adjudged by the Scientific Jurors at the World's Fairs at
London and New York; also by all the Scientific Institutes
and first Surgeous in America. Pamphlets sent grants.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS. - Astonlahingly offinedous in the cure of Sak Rheum, Scrofula, and other skin discusse, they will effect cures when all other me fall. Soid at the manufactories, No. 30 Maiden Lane, No York, and No. 244 Strand, London; and by all druggists, at 26 GSpc., and 41 per lock of pot.

DIXON'S CARBURET OF IRON,

"As ENTERLY NEW ARTICLE,"
FOR POLISHING STOVES.

The only substance that preduces an instantaneous polish on bot or cold stoves without an offensive smell. Wholesale and retail by

MANY BALDWIS & MANY,
No. 49 John st., cor. Dutch.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS .- MORUIDearlier cannot ensue where Holloway's Oliviment's applied in time to a wound, sor, or nicer. By preventing inflammation it prevents pain. For indignation, liver complaint and disorders of the bowels, the Pills are a sure remedy. So do at the manufacturies, No. 29 Maiden lane, New York, and No. 214 Strand, London, and by all druggists, at 25 cents, 62; cents, and \$1 per pot or box.

TELEGRPH BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND BROOKLYN.
Offices: Machagenest, hear Court, Brooklyn.
A'so at the Astor House, Metropolitan Hetel, New-York Hotel, and St. Germain Hotel, corner of Broadway and East 22d-at.

# New-Work Daily Tribune

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1857.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

notice can be taken of anonymous Communications. What ever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer—not necessarily for publica-tion, but as a guaranty of his good faits. e cannot undertake to return rejected Communications.

Sebse ibers, to sending us remittances, frequently omit to meet sion the name of the Fost-Office, and very frequently the name of the State, to which their paper is to be sent. Al-ways mention the usame of the Fost-Office and State. In the SENATE, yesterday, Mr. WELLER (Cal.)

reported a bill to increase the pay of officers of the Army.

The Iowa Contested Election case was then

taken up and debated until the adjournment.

In the House, Mr. Barchay (Pa.) spoke upon
the President's Message. He was followed by others, and the whole day was thus used up.

There was a fair supply of beef cattle at market pesterday, many of which were of superior quality. The price rules higher at this time than usual at this season of the year. All good, fair bullocks, suitable for market retailing beef, sell for prices equivalent to 10 to 114 cents a pound for the meat, and extra good still higher. Some interesting facts touching the profits that farmers in this vicinity might make by grazing and feeding Western cattle are stated in our Cattle Market report.

A judgment of more than ordinary importance, which was delivered by Judge Davies of the Supreme Court on Saturday last, may be found in another column. It discusses the relations and rights existing between the Accessory Transit Company, Commodore Vanderbilt, and the other crediters who hold liens upon several steam-hips owned by the Company. The application of several of the latter for the appointment of a Receiver is granted, but the appointee is to have no power to dispose of the property of the Company without a special order of the Court.

The Legislature is beginning work on a large scale, as will be seen by our report. Already a number of bills for this city especially have been

The Iorca State Gazette of the 31st ult. charges HORACE GREELEY with baying been employed by the Des Moines Navigation and Railroad Company at Washington last Winter as a lobby agent in heir behalf, and with having been paid for such ervice. The statement is utterly false and groundess; and the libeler who has briginated the accusation will be held to answer in a Court of Law with that promptness which the atrocity of his falschood demands.

An institution morally bad rarely deludes the world into the behef that it is practically good. Wrong and injustice are not only theoretically insufferable, but they have a hard way of rendering nations, societies, and individuals exceedingly uncomfortable. In the indulgance of petty vices we may sometimes lapse into a dreamy quietude, and thence into decided decomposition; but a continuous and absorbing mistake like that of Slavery gives us no peace, and makes our mornings and our evenings full of disquietude and contention. The slaveholder, so far from securing for houself and for his family that soft and lassitudinous enjoyment, the desire for which is his moving principle, is surrounded by unseen perits, and is the constant victim of nameless apprehensions. His regimers cannot meet for prayer or for pleasure without alarming him; a poor hardworking laborer cannot look sucky, but his master sees in that black face a general insucrection; a Northern newspaper, arriving at the Post-Office, is savagely squinted at, as if it were an infer-Lal machine; and the very chit chat of the store

of Abolition sentiments. The great house is tremulous with alarms, and stands in dread of the hum bler quarter houses. Theere is a revolution planning in the garret, and a gunpowder-p'ot in the cellar; Betry is putting arsenic into the soup in the kitchen, and Sam is secreting a rusty musket in the stable. All this reconciles us to blundering Irish servants, to half-cooked breakfasts, and to boots illy-polished-to the innumerable inconveniences attending free service on which our Southern friends are perpetually descanting. There is a pleasure in feeling tolerably safe, and there is rapture in the conviction that your throat is decently secure from the knife of the assassin.

How easily the slaveholder is frightened, and how thoroughly, helplessly and hopelessly he is frightened, is proved by the astonishing willingress which he exhibits to hang his two-legged chatted. His public spirit in this regard is remarkable; and the recent alarms of insurrection have furnished us with many notable instances of such magnanimity. To kill a dog that has worried your sheep is not uncommon: but then, no dog is worth one thousand bard Federal dollars, nor has Gov. Wise made any pleasing prophecy of a rise in the canine market. The truth is, that all the fuss and flurry, the public palpitation and panic, the excitement and the executions which we bave witnessed, prove, with a rigidity of logic of which statistics would be incapable, the pitiable weakness of the slave system. Such events as those which we have been compelled to record, furnish a refutation of all apologies, excuses, extenuations and arguments. They knock our twaddling friend, Mr. Richard Yesdon, as flat as his own style; they make ludicrous the elegant simplicities of Mr. Simms; and they demolish the card-castle theories of Mr. Calhoun, reared with so much pains and at such expense of time, of thought and of ingenuity. And most especially do they dissipate the Abrahamic fancies of good President Lord, who, w th a great deal of theology and an infinitesimal infusion of Christianity, has proved black to be white to the satisfaction of himself, of six other Doctors of Divinity, and of The Journal of Commerce. In his multitude of bondmen the patriarch found strength; but the bigger the gang of field hands and of house bands upon a plantation, the greater the weekness of the whole establishment; while in South Carolina, where this species of property has reached a p int beyond which accumulation seems impossible, they are in the last stages of constructive pauperism, and would not have a doit wherewith to cross themselves, did they not keep watch and ward over it with blades and blunderbusses. But who can imagine Abraham walking about his sheepfold with a revolver in each hand and a bowie-

knife between his reverend teeth?

We have said that these insurrections, as they are called, or rather the fear of them, demonstrate the weakness of the whole system of Slavery-a weakness which ramifies in every direction, and is felt in finance and in faith; in personal character and in the public character; in manners, habits, and all the phenomena of social life. This is eninently true of it in a time of peace, if such a time can be said ever to exist at the South. While we have no pressure from without, and no extraordinary demands upon our resources, an indulgence in dreary stupidities may be comparatively harmless. But a war is by no means impossible. We have vapored and swaggered, and played pistol; we have indulged in the pleasing luxury of Ostend Manifestos, and in theory at least we have demolished most of the reigning dynasties of Europe, just as effectually as we demolished Greytown. But suppose, after all this theatrical display, the hard, stern reality should come! Suppose the dogs of war should become too strong for the Marcy of a future period, or should grow restive in their leashes, with no Palmerston to restrain them ! We have said that hostilities were by no means impossible; and, in fact, nothing but a change in the national policy can render them otherwise than probable. Have our rulers, or rather have our readers, who make and unmake rulers, considered how frightful would be the results of an invasion of the Scuthern country ? That there would be invasion nobody can doubt; nor can any one suppose that a sagacious enemy would strike at us in the strongest place. Then, indeed, the noblest natural resources of the country would only prove its bitterest curse. It would be better to be without great gulfs, if they only invited the menacing fleets of the enemy; wi hout mighty rivers, if they only served for the transportation of hostile flotilia And in what a situation would the South be for defense? With a sparse white population, extending over an immense tract of country, the repulsion of a military and naval force would be, under ordinary circumstances, difficult; but how are those difficulties increased and complicated by the presence of masses of irritated and despairing men, hopeless of happiness save from the ruin of a country which has proved to them only a stony-hearted stepmother? The imagination shrinks from the con templation of scenes in which the inevitable horrors of war are aggravated by a servile insurrectionfrom scenes of conflagration, massacre and widespread ruin-of blazing towns and ravaged plantations. It is not enough to say that, in such a contest we should be victorious, for victory would be obtained at an expense frightful to estimate; at the cost of a depleted treasury, at the greater cost of thousands upon thousands of valuable lives. Those who sneeringly ask us what the North has to do with Slavery had better devote a few moments of leisure, if they have any, to a contemplation of these contingencies; and, should they experience any difficulty in coming to a conclusion, we have only to refer them to the condition of South Carolina during the war of the Revolution.

During the last session of Congress we called the attention of that body to the necessity of stringent enactments to guard the freedom et Congressions. discussion. We hope the present session is not to pass by without some efficient action in that direction. A Congress which suffers the discredit and disgrace of enumerating among its members such professors and applauders of assassin-like attacks on the freedom of public discussion and the sanctity of human life as Bully Brooks, Keitt, Edmundson, Rust, Herbert, and Toombs, owes it to self-respect alone, to say nothing of duty to the country, to make efficient provision for protecting the free dem of public discussion against the bludgeons of snealing bulies and cowardly assassins.

The law as it stands is palpably insufficient. The expulsion of Bully Brooks and of Keitt, so far from being any disgrace or punishment to them, became, by their almost unanimous reëlection and the nun erous other marks which they received of sympathy and of approbation, a real triumph-s triumph the more marked from the fact that the sympathy and approbation extended toward them was not confined to their immediate constituents nor to the Southern States. and the tavern is scrupulously sifted in search | Distinct, though somewhat indirect indirect

that sympathy and approbation were exhibited in the very city of Boston itself; among other things in the attempt made there, and which was so nearly successful, to defeat the reëlection of Mr. Burlingame. The remedy of expulsion, whether considered as a protection against the presence in Con grees of dangerous as well as unworthy members, or in the light of a disgraceful punishmentthough at the best a very inadequate one-for high-handed offences, has proved a total failure. Bully Brooks and his fellow-conspirator are again in their seats, encouraged and instigated by the applauses showered upon them to waylay any Senator or Representative whose genius, whose knowledge, whose argument, whose satire, whose eloquence offends them, and, being utterly unable otherwise to reply to him, to silence him forever by murder-

ous blows on the head. Nor, as it at present stands, does the criminal law of the District of Columbia afford the slightest means of repressing or punishing such crimes. That law may be aptly compared to an enactment of the Twelve Tables, for the punishment of assaults. which a certain Roman citizen held up to ridicule and contempt, by running through the city with a whip in his hand, striking right and left, and then tendering with a sneer to the assaulted party the triffing coin specified in the Twelve Tables as the damage for such assaults. That inefficiency of law -at best hardly adequate to such emergencies-that change of it from a terror to a laughing-stock which had been brought about at Rome by the depreciation of the coinage and the diminution from other causes of the comparative value of money, has been quite as effectually and much more rapidly accomplished at Washington, by a still more marked depreciation in the character of those who occupy the bench of er minal justice.

As the law stands at present, crime of the highest magnitude, involving all the worst ingredients of both treason and murder, may be perpetrated at Washington-at least, by Members of Congress from the slaveholding States-with the certainty of no other legal penalty than a fine of one or two hundred dollars. Well knowing the sort of persons whom it has sitting among its own members-a Brooks, a Herbert, a Rust, a Keitt, an Edmundson-how can the House delay an instant in providing laws adequate to the restraint of such lawless and dangerous characters !

As to the Senate, we must say that they stand before the country and the world in a very delicate position. Mr. Douglas gave as his reason for not having interfered to stay the assault of an armed budy upon an unarmed fellow-Senator, attacked unawares in his seat and already blinded and staggering under the blows showered upon him, that he feared lest interference on his part might be misinterpreted and its motives misunderstood. Undoubtedly Mr. Douglas, by the course he took on that occasion, made himself perfectly transparent, if not as a person utterly destitute of any generosity or magnanimity, of the sentiment of fair play, of scruples as to the employment of any means for the gratification of personal or party hatreds, at least as a person who, in comparison with political premotion, cared for none of these things; nor, as it seems to us, can the Senate, as a body, under the existing circumstances of the case, imitate Mr. Douglas's quiescence without placing it-

self in precisely the same category. The case stands now very differently from what it did at the time of Mr. Douglas's special involvement in it. The idea then put forward, the basis in fact on which Mr. Douglas rested his attempt at explananation, was that the assault on Mr. Sumper was, as to its physical features, quite a trifling offense-a few blows on the head with a light walking stick, which accidentally drew blood, and which, however they might operate to disgrace Mr. Sumner, were otherwise quite insignificant. The result has shown the outrage under which Mr. Sumner has suffered to have been of the most serious physical character, leaving it still doubtful whether he will ever be able to resume his seat in the Senate. Surely, under such circumstances, that body cannot remain quiescent. Our Constitution assures to Senators and Representatives the same security in the discharge of their official duties which attached to the Tribunes of the Roman people. The disregard of this efficial inviolability, by the murder of the Gracchi, was one of the first symptoms of an incipient revolution, which ended in the extinction of the Roman Republic. If the outrage against Mr. Sumner passes not only unpunished, but without any steps being taken to prevent its regetition, will it not afford a like indication of the growing prependerancy among ourselves of a similar aristocratical element? The great offense of the Gracchi-that which caused their murder-was their desire to secure for the mass of the Roman citizens their share in the lands acquired by the Republic, instead of having them all engrossed by the aristocratic class. The offense committed by Mr. Sumner, in opposing the extension of Slavery into Kansas, was precisely of a similar sort. Hence the attempt to murder him-an attempt made in the interest and with the approval of the aristocratic class-to murder him, too, in the very Senate House, and while engaged in the discharge of his Senatorial duties-or if not to murder him outright, which, but for the interference of third parties, there is every reason to suppose would have hap pered, to disable him forever from political life It remains to be seen whether, as the Roman Senate approved the murder of the Gracchi because they advocated the rights of the poorer classes, our Senate at Washington will give their tacit approval to a similar outrage perpetrated on Mr. Sumner because he dared to assume the advocacy of those rights of man upon which our Republic professes to be based, and to maintain the interests of Free Labor against the audscieus attempts of a slaveholding aristocracy to appropriate Kansas to their

Mayor Wood is just the man to seize and improve in an inaugural address the opportunity of dealing Recorder Smith what the boys call a "sidewinder." A stranger to the city might have inferred from the somewhat abstract nature of the discussion into which the late message of his Worship, or his Honor-whatever be the epithet-plunges and the stateliness of the periods through which it moves, that the writer had determined, for the nonce, to ferget or forgive all personal quarrels. The rhetorical art, which reserves the Recorder as the cap-sheaf and rounding of the argument, and the by-the-by manner in which he is introduced, are truly admirable.

The paragraphs on this matter are so short and tend to well by themselves that we venture to detach them from the columns of public-spirited speculation in which they occur:

Judicial officers are rarely qualified for executive duties; and the fact was rever more clearly illustrated than in the conduct of one of the Police Board at the last election in this city. The regulations of the Mayor for the preservation of the peace and the security of the citizens in the exercise of the right of suffrage were insteady attention with by his unwarrantable con-

duct—essuming, unfortunately for the weifare of this city, by virtue of his office, this power to do mischief. Partisanism is bad enough on the Bench, and should not be allowed to extend its evil influences among our noble Police, who, by good regulations and severe oriting, have been placed under a semi-military discipline, highly advantageous to its efficiency and morale. Bather than distract such a body by placing it under mere partisan heads, or even to continue it under the direction of a divided authority however chosen, it had better be dissolved. Better that we result a society into its original elements, and protect our persons and property as best we can."

With the truth of the first clause quoted, which we take to be a sly dig at Judge Whiting, as well as the Recorder, we have nothing to do. Nor do we purpose to compare the noble Police with the Judiciary, either in point of morale or partisanship, or to argue upon the advantages or disadvantages of substituting a state of nature for a state of misrule and legalized robbery. But we should like to ask all who remember the 4th of November whether a more exquisite piece of irony could be framed than what Mayor Wood puts forth as a statement of the events of that day ! In what manner, we should be glad to know, did the Recorder interfere with the Mayor's "regulations for the preservation "of the peace and the security of the citizens in the exercise of the right of suffrage "-regulations of which no mortal has heard till yesterday. What power to do mischief did he assume? What executive duty did be perform? The facts of the case, as stated in THE TRIBUNE and other journals on the 5th of November, are s mply that Recorder Smith repaired to his office at an early hour, surmising that there might be disturbances at the polls, and prepared to exercise his duties as a magistrate, if called upon. As a magistrate he issued some ten er a dozen warrants; as a magistrate he beld the only offender brought before him to bail; as a magistrate he sought to have his warrants executed, and having been deprived of the police force attached to his Court by the Mayor's " regu-Istions," and having asked that functionary in vain for more, he was engaged as a magistrate in swearing in a force of special deputies, when the polls

The source of Recorder Smith's zeal, the motives by which he was governed, are not our concern. Enough that his was an attempt to perform the duties of a criminal magistrate, not of an Executive officer, or a Police Commissioner-an attempt which was foiled by the action or inaction, as the case might be, of the head of the City Government. We have no interest in defending this or that man, as an individual, from unjust aspersions; but when ruffianism goes unpunished, when a great metropolis, or a part of a great metropolis, has been wholly in the hands of a set of ruffishs, for a day or an hour, we like to see the responsibility lie and continue to lie on the right shoulders. To Mayor Wood and Mayor Wood alone are all the occurrences which disgraced New-York on the 4th of Nevember last justly ascribable. He had the "noble police" wholly at his disposal, and could have kept the city throughout the day as free from riot as the Bowery was in the days when Dutch Frauleins plucked flowers there years ago. Let every man bear his own burden.

We print in another column a letter from Mr. James Brewster, a prominent and highly respected citizen of New-Haven, Conn , detailing, in deference to our request, the results of thirty years' experience by New-Haven in an enlightened effort to supply labor suited to their several capacities to all but the inval d paupers of that city. This being effected, Mr. Brewster states that the Alms House establishment of New-Haven-for several years past a city of more than thirty thousand inhabitants has more than supported itself, so that the citizens of New-Haven have paid nothing for the support of public paupers except the interest on the first cost of the establishment.

But this is not all. The benefits of the new system, as compared with the old, are as follows: I. A great improvement in the moral and physical

condition of the paupers themselves. II. Very many deterred from sinking or drifting into pauperism by the knowledge that this would not save them from the necessity of working for a

III. Pauperism self-supporting.

We consider Mr. Brewster's letter of more importance and utility than any President's Message put forth within five years, and trust it will command attention accordingly.

The subject of Pauperism is more imperfectly understood and injudiciously treated than almost any other. Instead of regarding pauperism as a curable disease, and striving to mitigate if not remove its repulsive features, the general practice is to pay a premium for it by proffering to the pauper a life of careless indolence and assured subsistence. Once fallen to that level, he has little motive and no help toward a recovery. Our city, in spite of her Ten Governors, seems to have made little progress toward a solution of the problem-" How shall Pauperism be dealt with !" nor do we know that any great city has treated it so successfully as New-Haven has. We commend her example to general imitation.

### BY TELEGRAPH TO THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

Washington, Wednesday Jan. 7, 1857.
No. 21. Robt. J. Vandewater, appellant vs. Edwd.
Misls, claiment of the steamship Yankoe Blade. Justice Grier delivered the opinion of the Court, affirming
the decree of the Circuit Court of California, with

No. 14. E. G. Rogers & Co., et al, owners of the cargo, and Pooley, Nicol & Co., owners of the schr. Ells, sppellants, vs. The steamer St. Charles, James L. Day, et al., claimants. Justice Nelson delivered the opinion of the Court, reversing the decree of the Cir-uit Court of Eastern Louisians, with costs, and re-

cuit Court of Eastern Louisians, with costs, and re-ranging the sause for further proceedings in conformity with the opinion of this Court. No. 15. W. H. Seymour et al., plaintiffs, vs. Cyrus H. McCormick.—Justice Nelson celivered the opinion of the Court, affirming the judgment of the Circuit Court of Northern New-York, with costs, and remand-ing the cause with directions to strike from the record

he taxation of costs.

No. 18. C. C. Lathrop plaintiff vs. Chas. Judson — Justice McLean delivered the opinion of the Court, affirming the judgment of the Circuit Court of Eastern Louisiana, with costs and damages at the rate of 10 per

cent per annum.

No. 40. Frederick Schuchard et al., appellants, vs.

Winthrop S. Babbidge et al., claimants of half the
proceeds of the skip Angeline.—Argument commenced
by Mr. Cutting for the appellants, and continued by
Mr. Benedict for appellees. Adjourned till to morrow.

### MAINE LEGISLATURE.

MAINE LEGISLATURE.

AUGUSTA, Wednesday, Jan. 7, 1857.

The Maine Legislature assembled to day. The Senate elected J. H. Wilkins of Augusta President, and Joseph B. Hell of Presque Isle Secretary.

The House organized by choosing Charles A. Spofford of Deer Isle Speaker, by 113 votes against 25 for John C. Talbet. George W. Wilcox of Dismort was elected Clerk.

ected Clerk.

A communication was read from the Hon. Hannibal

Haml'n resigning his office of United States Senator, and a Committee appointed on the Gubernstorial vote, who wil report to morrow, when Gov. Hamlin will be inaugurated.

NON-ARRIVAL OF THE NORTH AMERICAN. PORTLAND, Wednesday, Jan 7—10 P. M.
The steam-hip North American, row fully due at this port from Liverpool, has not been signalized up to the

# THE LATEST NEWS. RECEIVED BY

## MAGNETIC TELEGRAPEL

FROM WASHINGTON. Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Jan. 7, 1857. No intelligence has been received from Mr. Morse, the Commissioner to New Granada, since the fact of his arrival at Panama. The objects of his mission were stated in THE TRIBUNE at the time of his departure, and all other alleged exposrtions are mistakes. It is d ubted here if the subjects in controversy can be closed before the exodus of the present Administration. Mr. Bowlin, Resident Munister, has got into an unfortunate controversy with the local press, by which negotiations may be embarrassed. The best hope of success depends upon the overture made by this Government for the purchase of territory along the railroad route, and the freedom of the cities at the termini. The price is left open to bargain. The islands which adjoin Panama, and are proposed as a United States de pot, belong to the Railroad Company, and would be included, if adopted, under the free Municipality of Panama. Another island, Tagada, near by, is also suggested for the same use. This point will be determined when Mr. Morse returns from Bogots, but it is subordinate in the general plan of

arrangements.

The appointment of Mr. Villiers as Minister from England here was not formally announced in Eagland, but is undoubted. The Administration was approved of such intention two weeks ago, though it is in direct conflict with a previously expressed purpose. Mr. Dallas writes privately that the change of intention was not occasioned by the appearance of the Resolute, though there is reason to believe that the preparations of this Government to dispatch her and the character of the mission produced much impression on Euglish official counsels. Besides, it is well known that the autheritative tone of the Press has much changed of late, and it is believed that Lord Palmerston was not inclined to face Parliament in February with diplomatic relations suspended toward the United States. Mr. Villiers is a brother of Lord Clarendon, and is a bachelor, about fifty-four years old. He was noted in Par iament for introducing the standing resolution on the Corn Laws. No intelligence has reached here as to the time of his arrival, though it is soon anticipated.

It is the intention of the Administration to reciprocate in every proper way the attentions manifested toward Lieut. Hartstene and his associates, soon to arrive in a British war-steamer. Instructions will be issued to receive her with proper salutes at the New York Navy Yard, and the officers will be invited to Washington to be welcomed by the hospitality of the President and

The Supreme Court this morning affirmed the decision of the Court below, giving damages to Mr. McCormick for the infringement of his Reaper patent. This decree will undoubtedly exert much influence in determining vexatious legislation.

Mr. Buchanan's special friends in the Sepate are manifesting tokens of opposition to the recent treaty with England, on various assumed grounds. Mr. Douglas, who expressed his objections at the first has receded. The appointment of the new Minister, and the exchange of international civilisies may overcome the prejudices now entertained.

John Appleton is feted here like a Grand Bashaw on his travels. He evidently feels his oats, and has his cinners double i almost daily. Three months hence such hospitality will not be superabundant. The dispatches sent by Gov. Geary, through Mr.

Heag and, cover nothing of public importance. They relate mainly to internal affairs, to his Administration, and give assurance of continued peace and growing security.

Congress acjourned over to-merrow, to celebrate the memory of Saint Jackson, now canonized with the Democracy.

When the printing of ten thousand copies of the Ceast Survey was moved and carried to-day, only ten men could be mustered to demand a call of the Ayes and Nays. Had it been a widow's pension, instead of a big job, half the House, or u have been prompt.

Opinion is divided as to the fate of Mr. Harlan's case before the Senate; but party practice almost insures his defeat. Arguments go for nothing, although exceedingly well put to-day by Mr. Foster, and yesterday by Mr. Toombs and others.

Mr. Bright is sangaine of reflection to the Senate, even in spite of a coalition to bring in a moderate Republican or a Know-Nothing. A deadly foud with Gov. Willard favors his chances for combinations that might not be formed otherwise. To the Associated Press.

To the Associated Press.

It appears from documents sent to the Senate to day by the President, that the refusal of Mr. Dubois, Minister of the Netherlands, to testify in the Herbert case was grounded on international law, on the Constitution of the United States, and a special law of our own enactment, and after he had had a consultation with the diplomatic corps. He states he was the only impartial spectator of the proceedings at William's Hotel, which resulted in the ceath of Keating. He would have had no objection to being a witness if his partion as representative of his Government did not the mental birm from appearing in a court of law, where he would be subject to a cross summation. Although it was against his wish to decline Mr. Marcy's invitation to testify, but that he was ready to go to the State Department and there give the details of what he saw, in the presence of such persons as Mr. Marcy might think necessary. Mr. Belmont, our Minister to the Hague, by direction of Mr. Marcy, brought the conduct of Mr. Dubois to the notice of the Minister, expressed the warmest feelings of friendship for this Government. Such testimony as Mr. Dubois proposed to give would not have been competent in a Court of Juence, and it was therefore declined by Mr. Marcy.

About forty members of Congress held a cancas to-Marcy.
About forty members of Congress held a caucas to-

About forty members of Congress need a caucas to-day to consider what was best to be done relative to the fifty or sixty River and Harbor bills now pend-ing in both Houses. It was concluded to units them all in one bill and use efforts thus to pass them even ever to the Executive veto.

The Committee of the House on the Post Office and

Pest Roads are to have a meeting to night to consider the propositions to let all mail steamer contracts to the lowest bidder, under the direction of the Postmaster

In the case of Seymour and Morgan against Cyrus In the case of Seymour and Morgan against cyrus

H. McCormick, the Supreme Court affirmed the judgment of the Court below, sustaining all its opinions on
the patents of McCormick, excepting as to the construction of a claim not embraced in the suit, and on
this a majority decided there was an error. The only
effect of this last is to deprive Mr. McCormick of

The decuments submitted to day relative to the Sub-

The Periods as well scene that the Company equest that the President will make such recommendation to Congress as will scene this end.

The Periods as will scene this end. The President makes no recommendation, but merely submits the above, and the proposition of the Lords

Commissioners.

No reply of Mr. Marcy's accompanies the docu-

An important postal convention has been tendered to the United States by the French Government, which will greatly simplify our correspondence with foreign Powers. This convention provides that we may transmit letters prepaid in the United States through France to all the Powers with which she has postal conventions and the has more than any other at present

tiens; and she has more than any other at present.

The postage will be ar quarter ounce: For France,
15 cents; England, Brigium, &c., 21 cents; Austria,

liely, &c., 25 cents; Constantinople, the Levant, &c., 31 cests; the East Indies, 35 cests, &c. Tun I understand to be the general s beene, though I may not have all the figures exact.

The convention was brought out by Sartiges the other day. It practically gives us the benefit of all the French postal conventions, and is regarded, by all who have been made acquainted with its terms, as of the greatest national importance.

IANSING Mich., Wedneday, Jan. 7, 1837.

The Michigan Legislature assembled at 10 a. m.
In the Senate the former efficers were shosen: Secretary, J. Miller of Calhoun; Enrolling Clerk. M. L. Gage of Saginaw; Sergeant-at-Arms, P. K. Pierce of Washtenaw. MICHIGAN LEGISLATURB.

Washtenaw.

In the House, Byren G. Stout of Oakland was elected Speaker; Charles V. Deland of Jackson, Clerk; Wm. A. Hall of Livingston, Enrolling Clerk, and James Winters of Calbonn Sergeant at-Arms.

The Governor will deliver his Message this afternoon in person to both Houses in joint convention.

#### XXXIVTH CONGRESS. SECOND SESSION.

SENATE.....Washington, Jan. 7, 1857.

Mr. WELLER reported a bill to increase the pay of officers in the army, and gave notice that he should call it up at an early day.

The consideration of the Iowa election case was

reumed.

Mr. BAYARD argued against the right of Mr. Harlan to a seat. When, he said, two integral bodies are to perform any act, both must be present at the time, or it cannot be constitutionally done. In the present case, it was admitted that the Senate of Lowa, as a b dy, did not participate in the election, nor did a quorum of that body vote on the occasion; therefore, Mr. Herlan was voted for by only one branch of the Lariabiture.

Mr. FOSTER, replying, said that after the Conventien was duly organized by the concurrence of the two banches of the Legislature, it remained in session, and could not be dissolved only by the vote of a majority of the Convent on, or by the withdrawal of such a number of members as would leave less than a quorum present. The members ceased to act in the expactly present. The members ceased to act in the expansion of Senators and Representatives, but were to be counted numerically. Mr. Harlan having received a majority of the votes of all the members of the Convention, he was thereby legally elected. If the sixteen Senators who absented themselves had all been present and voted against Mr. Harlan he would still have been elected; and how, then, could their absence prevent his steetlin.

his election.

Mr. SEWARD obtained the floor.

The PRESIDENT pro tem submitted a letter from
Mr. Hamlin, resigning his ceat as a Senator from
Maine. Adjourned till Friday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A motion to print extra copies of the President's Message being under consideration,

Mr. BARCLAY said—The only effect of that document would be to increase, if that were possible, the contempt which now exists throughout the country against its author. He would not inderse or appear to sarction its misrepresentations by sending it to the public printer. He would not inderse or appear to sarction its misrepresentations by sending it to the public printer. He would not inderse or appear to sarction its misrepresentations by sending it to the public printer. He would not inderse or appear to sarction its misrepresentations by sending it to the public printer. He would not be appeared to the country of the country of the Capitol. He entered his protest against the language thereia contained. The President was elected with unprecedented unan'mity, and on the most solema pleades not to reepen the Slavery question. He was sucreely warm in his seat before the confidence reposed is him by the people was violated, and he hannehed out into the boister us ocean of agitation. The first leading measure of the Administration was for the repeal of the time-honored Compromise. Let gentlemen disguise it as they may, that alone has been the cause of the great troubling of the waters. That uneccessity, reckless and iniquitous measure struck the Democratic party in the Free States with terror. The people, basely betrayed, dared to remonstrate with the independence of freemen, and dared to denource such unrpation of power. Its chief authors, aiders and abettors were exercated wherever human rights were cherished or political honesty respected. The exercation extended to the White House and compelled its immate to tremble like a convicted criminal. He was rejected by the Cincinnati Convention and like an old horse which had served its master, was turned out to grass. While the Convention thus repudiated bim, by their acts they indersed the measures. was turned out to grass. While the Convention that repudiated bim, by their acts they indersed the measurement. res of his Administration-a singular effect of the heavy power of public plunder. Now his hopes are blasted, and the Chief Magistrate, forgetful of his high position, takes eccasion under the shield of his duty under the Censtitution, to attack and arraign as traitors

under the Censtitution, to attack and arraign as traitors citizens who are quite as intelligent, honest, and perriotic as himself.

With regard to the President's language respecting the alleged revolutionary purpose of the Republicans. Mr. Barchay denounced it as a gross calumny, and no proof whatever could be adduced to support the President's declaration. It only showed the depth of degradation to which the President has descended. Mr. Barclay reviewed the Message in order to show the untenable positions of the President in regard to the Slavery question.

Mr. SANDIDGE commenced his speech by reading he American party a leason, in return for one delivered yeaterday by Mr. Davis of Maryland to the Democracy. He would poent them to the affiliation of the Know-Nothings and Republicans in the North to break down the Democrats. The half-dozen Know-Nothings who acted in this House with the South Americans have all been slaughtered at home. He would point them to the roined and bloody walks in Louisville, Baltimore, New Orleans and other places, and to the general destruction of confidence between man and his brother. In the two short years of its existence it had done more for the advancement of the holy Catholic religion than the Church, through its ministers, could religion than the Church, through its ministers, could have done in twenty years. He concluded by vindicating the rights of the South.

Ten theusand copies of the Report of the Superintendent of the Coast Survey were ordered to be printed. Acjourned till Friday.

MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

BIASSAUHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.
Boston, Wednesdev, Jan. 7, 1857.
The Massachusetts Legislature met at noon to day.
Charles A. Pheeps of Boston was elected Speaker of the House-receiving 314 votes against 3 scattering.
The Schale is new organizing.
After the choice of the Speaker the House elected W: liam Stowe of Springfield, Clerk, by 303 votes to 14 scattering.

scattering.

The Senate organized by electing Charles W. Upham of Salem, President, and Peter L. Cox of Lynn, Clerk. The vote for these gentlemen was nearly unani-

After the organization the Governor and both

branches of the Legislature proceeded, with a military escert, to the Ola South Church, where an election ser-mon was presched by the Rev. Mr. Pike of Rowley. The Governor's Measage will probably be delivered

MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR OF ILLINOIS

The Message of Governor Matteson states that the total State indebtedness on the 1st of January, 1857, was \$12,834,000. The amount liquidated during the past four years was \$4,500,000. Balance in the Treasury on the 1st of January, \$215,000. He says there is no doubt the State is rully able to pay interest regularly in future, and to extinguish the whole debt within seven years. Thinks the revenue from the Central Railroad will soon pay the entire expenses of the Government, leaving a surplus from the Illinois and Michi-Railroad will soon pay the entire expenses of the Government, leaving a surplus from the Illinois and Michigao Canal for charitable and beneficial purposes in the discretion of the Legislature. He says that no proposition or attempt has been made within his knowledge o release the Company from the payment of seven per cent of its earnings according to its charter. The difficulties arising from the failure of Wadaworth & Stelden, Agents of the State, may yet be arranged without loss to the State. Recommends a revision of he Revenue Laws as applied to banks and railroads; recommends the establishment of a Department of Agriculture in connection with the State Department. The proposition for a Convention to amend the Constitution having failed, he recommends a careful inquiry not the means for avoiding the serious evils of the present system. present system.

ILLINOIS LEGISLATURE.

Springfield, Tuesday, Jan. 6, 1857.
The State Senate of Illinois organized to-day. Ber. Bond. Democrat, was elected Secretary. An attempt was made to take the appointment of Committees from the presiding officer Lieutenant-Governor Wood, Republican, pending which the Senate adjourned. The Governor's Message was sent in this afternoon.

THE VERMONT STATE CAPITOL.

THE VERMONT STATE CAPITOL.

Bostos, Wednesday, Jan. 7, 1857.
The Vermont State Capitel was a simple but imposing structure, commenced in the year 1833 and fluished in 1837, at a cost of \$132,000. Nothing remains of the building this morning but the granite walls. Among the most scrious lesses is the State Naturalist's apartments, the destruction of which is total and the less investable. reparable.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE NEAR QUEBEC. Quance, Wednesday, Jan. 7, 1857.
Tibet's Founders at Point Levi was totally destroyed
by fire yester's y morning. The loss is about \$29,000
and the insurance \$14,000.

An ice bridge was formed opposite this city by the freet of last night.